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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/358,520	07/22/1999	FUJIO NOGUCHI	SONY-P9841	1674

22850 7590 10/02/2003

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EXAMINER

WU, DOROTHY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2697

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/358,520

Applicant(s)

NOGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

Dorothy Wu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 2, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al, U.S. Patent 6,199,014, in view of Fukushima et al, U.S. Patent 4,807,157.

Regarding claim 1, Walker et al teaches a method to build photography database **211**, wherein the method comprises the steps of capturing an image of a desired object, outputting the captured image, and automatically associating said captured image to the current location information by storing the current location information from the mobile GPS unit to the photography database (col. 6, line 65-col. 7, line 8, and Fig. 7). The image pickup means, associating means, and recording means are inherently taught. Walker teaches that specialized data may be transmitted to in-vehicle navigation devices, which takes said specialized data into account when planning routes (col. 1, lines 36-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to output the specialized data as information for accessing the desirability of different routes, which reads on information about route relations as management data. Walker et

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al also teaches that removable CD-ROMs can be used for storing the digital map, which constitute image data and their respective locations (col. 1, lines 25-32, and col. 2, lines 1-2). Walker et al does not specifically disclose a solid-state storage medium. Fukushima et al teaches that in a navigation system, directional information may be stored on an IC card, which reads on the solid-state storage medium (col. 2, lines 57-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the removable CD-ROM taught by Walker et al with a removable solid-state storage medium taught by Fukushima et al to make a navigation system that relies on a solid-state storage medium. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to make such a modification to offer greater flexibility in the type of storage mediums used in navigational systems.

Regarding claim 2, Fukushima et al teaches the use of an IC card to store directional information (col. 2, lines 57-60).

Regarding claim 6, Walker teaches a storage medium (matching results database 213) providing guidance regarding a route to a destination so as to store information about said route, wherein image data related to said route are recorded in correspondence with locations along said route (col. 7, lines 47-54, 9-37). Walker teaches that specialized data may be transmitted to in-vehicle navigation devices, which takes said specialized data into account when planning routes (col. 1, lines 36-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to store specialized data for accessing the desirability of different routes, which reads on information about route relations as management data. Walker et al also teaches a CD-ROM interfaced with a GPS receiver, which reads on a storage medium inserted into a navigation apparatus, that provides guidance regarding a route to a destination (col. 1, lines 9-11, and col. 2, lines 1-4). Walker does not teach the use of

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an IC card as the storage medium. Fukushima et al teaches the use of a removable IC card to store directional information (col. 2, lines 57-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the removable CD-ROM taught by Walker et al with a removable solid-state storage medium taught by Fukushima et al to make a navigation system that relies on a solid-state storage medium. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to make such a modification to offer greater flexibility in the type of storage mediums used in navigational systems.

3. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al, U.S. Patent 6,199,014.

Regarding claim 4, Walker et al teaches a navigation apparatus comprising: recording means (RAM 203) for recording information about a route to a destination (col. 7, lines 9-25). Walker et al teaches that route information is related to image data (col. 7, lines 26-37). The associated means is inherently taught. Walker teaches that specialized data may be transmitted to in-vehicle navigation devices, which takes said specialized data into account when planning routes (col. 1, lines 36-40). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to use the specialized information to update information concerning the desirability of differing routes, which reads on updating information about route relations as management data. Walker et al teaches outputting means (central controller 101) for outputting said image data in conjunction with said route information (col. 5, lines 29-33). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to output the specialized data, which reads on the management data, in conjunction with route and image data. Walker et al also teaches that removable CD-ROMs can be used for

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storing the digital map, which constitute image data and their respective locations (col. 1, lines 25-32, and col. 2, lines 1-2).

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al, U.S. Patent 6,199,014, in view of Fukushima et al, U.S. Patent 4,807,157.

Regarding claim 5, Walker et al teaches the apparatus of claim 4. See above. Walker et al teaches the storage of still images recorded by an image pickup apparatus on a storage medium (col. 6, line 65-col. 7, line 8, and Fig. 7). Walker et al does not teach that the removable storage medium is an IC card. Fukushima et al teaches a removable IC card with stored directional information (col. 2, lines 57-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the removable solid-state storage medium taught by Fukushima et al into the navigational system taught by Walker et al to make a navigation system that relies on a solid-state storage medium. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to make such a modification to offer greater flexibility in the type of storage mediums used in navigational systems.

5. Claims 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al, U.S. Patent 6,199,014, in view of Fukushima et al, U.S. Patent 4,807,157, and further in view of Bradshaw et al, U.S. Patent 5,528,518.

Regarding claim 3, Walker et al in view of Fukushima et al teach the apparatus according to the limitations of claim 1. See above. Walker et al teaches that information concerning a particular route, namely directional vectors and image data, may be stored in a database (col. 7,

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lines 47-54). Walker et al does not teach that current location information is recorded at least in relation to information about a route to a destination indicated on a map in a display screen.

Bradshaw et al teaches that current location and image data information is recorded at least in relation to information indicated on a map in a display screen (col. 14, lines 32-27, 44-54).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the concept of having a predetermined route stored in memory taught by Walker et al with the practice of capturing locations and image data by noting their location on map in a display to make an apparatus in which the user may record information concerning a route by displaying the route on the display screen and inputting image data corresponding to different locations on the route. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to make such a modification to stored in memory a customized route he frequently uses, thus avoiding the tedious task of regenerated the same route whenever he needs it.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

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CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dorothy Wu whose telephone number is 703-305-8412. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on 703-308-7644.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

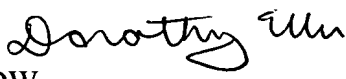
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703)306-0377.


DW
September 25, 2003


ANDREW CHRISTENSEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600